


REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the present amendments and the following remarks. By this amendment, claim 24 is amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 25 and 27, and claims 14-23 and 25-41 are canceled. As a result, upon entry of this amendment claims 1-13 and 24 are pending in this case, with claims 1 and 24 being independent claims. Because the application as amended contains two independent claims and 14 total claims, it is believed that no additional fees are due for the consideration of this paper. However, if additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 13-2855.

As indicated, claim 24 is amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 25 and 27. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are supported by the specification as originally filed on November 21, 2003, and that no new matter or new issues are added by the amendments. Because claims 1-13 were previously indicated as being allowed, and previous dependent claim 27 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in condition for allowance and respectfully solicit same. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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